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Rockville Scholarship Foundation Awards 2009 College Grants to Record Number of Local Students

Winners To Be Honored By City's Mayor and Council on June 15

ROCKVILLE, Md., June 8, 2009 – Thirteen students displaying exceptional academic careers and unique extracurricular involvement have been named winners of college scholarship grants by the Rockville Scholarship Foundation. This is the most number of students the Foundation has honored since 1986, when the Foundation began distributing the awards to students in need in the community.

The scholarships, which are used toward higher-education at an academic institution selected by the student, range in amount from \$2,000- \$750. The 2009 winners will be honored on Monday, June 15, by Rockville's Mayor and Council and leaders of the Rockville Chamber of Commerce, Montgomery College- Rockville and the Rockville Scholarship Foundation at a special reception at 6 p.m. and then at the Mayor and Council's televised public meeting at 7 p.m.

"As the president of The Rockville Scholarship Foundation (RSF) for the last five years, I have been deeply moved by the difference we are making in the lives of students and families in our community," said John Moser, president of RSF. "This year, because of the current economic distress facing so many families in Rockville, the Foundation was able to support a record number of young adults who are looking to pursue their higher education degrees. We are very proud of these thirteen youth and know they will make great contributions to our community."

Applications were reviewed by a blue-ribbon panel of judges after the April 16 deadline based on five categories — academic standing, integrity and character, community involvement, school activities and need. All honorees reside within the corporate city limits of the City of Rockville, attend Rockville, Richard Montgomery or Wootton High Schools, or are college students attending Montgomery College-Rockville campus.

The 2009 scholarship recipients are: Daniela Jan Pila of Rockville; Kara J. Karpman of Silver Spring; Molly Chinray Li of Gaithersburg; Paul Higgins Rosiak of Rockville; Rachel Larkin Wagner of Rockville; Shuxin Zhang of Rockville, Rebecca Joy Koutsandreas of North Potomac; Ali Razjooyan of Rockville; Kiegan Ann Montgomery of Rockville; Nery Estuardo Ochoa of Silver Spring; Li Peng Liang of Derwood; Henry Q. Bonilla of Silver Spring; and Patrick Damian Wisda of Rockville.

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The Foundation, created in 1985, is a partnership of the Rockville Chamber of Commerce, the City of Rockville and Montgomery College-Rockville. Since its inception, the foundation has granted more than 150 scholarships in excess of \$160,000 to Rockville students pursuing post-secondary education. A significant number of local businesses and individuals contributed to the Foundation this year as part of a winter fundraising campaign, enabling the Foundation to support a record number of students who are pursuing their higher education degrees.

The Foundation is a not-for-profit, charitable organization under section 501c (3) of the IRS Code. Eligibility is open to residents in the corporate limits of Rockville; students attending a Rockville high school; and Montgomery College students (Rockville). The Foundation is administered by a volunteer 13-member Board of Directors. The Board decides policy, formulates fundraising, and is responsible for the award process.

For further information, or to contribute, visit <http://www.rsfoundation.net/>.

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